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TO: FBI, SECRET SERVICE//ID, DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE//FOR
INR/DSITA, DIA WASHINGTON DC, DA WASHINGTON DC, CNO WASHINGTON DC,
CHC WASHINGTON DC, CSAF WASHINGTON DC, TREASURY DEPT, WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM, DOEHQ//IN, USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PH.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

DIST: 7 MARCH 1995

COUNTRY: GUATEMALA

SUBJ: COMMENTS OF THE GUATEMALAN MINISTER OF DEFENSE ON THE
CASE OF INSURGENT LEADER EFRAIN BAHACA VELASQUEZ

DOI: LATE FEBRUARY 1995

SUMMARY: NONE

TEXT: 1. IN LATE FEBRUARY 1995, GUATEMALAN MINISTER OF
DEFENSE GENERAL MARIO RENE ((ENRIQUEZ)) AMORALES BRIEFED
OFFICERS ON ACTIONS BEING
TAKEN BY THE GUATEMALAN ARMED FORCES IN RESPONSE TO ACCUSATIONS
THAT THE ARMY IS STILL HOLDING CAPTIVE REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATION
OF PEOPLE IN ARMS (ORPA) LEADER EFRAIN ((BAHACA)) VELASQUEZ, ALIAS
"COMANDANTE EVERARDO". DURING THE BRIEFING
ENRIQUEZ SAID A BODY THAT WAS EXHUMED
DURING THE SEARCH FOR THE REMAINS OF BAHACA WAS INDEED THE BODY OF
BAHACA.

ACCORDING TO A MILITARY INVESTIGATION, THE JUDGE WHO
PRESIDED OVER THE EXHUMATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY DECLARED THAT THE
EXHUMED BODY WAS NOT THAT OF INSURGENT COMMANDER BAHACA, WAS PAID
OFF TO DO SO.

ENRIQUEZ STATED THAT THE JUDGE, WHO IS
CURRENTLY RETIRED, WILL SOON PRESENT HIMSELF IN COURT TO CHANGE
HIS FORMER ASSESSMENT AND WILL DECLARE THAT THE BODY THAT WAS
EXHUMED WAS INDEED THE REMAINS OF BAHACA.

2. ENRIQUEZ ALSO TOLD THE OFFICERS THAT THE ALLEGED U.S.
CITIZEN SPOUSE OF BAHACA WILL BEGIN HER HUNGER STRIKE IN LAFAYETTE
PARK IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ON 12 MARCH 1995 ALL IN AN EFFORT TO
PRESSURE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO ACT ON HER BEHALF. IN RESPONSE TO
PRESSURE FROM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, ENRIQUEZ STATED THE GUATEMALAN
ARMY IS PAYING TWO U.S. LAWYERS IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, TO INVESTIGATE
THE ALLEGED U.S. SPOUSE'S CLAIMS THAT SHE IS LEGALLY MARRIED TO
BAHACA. ENRIQUEZ COMMENTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE LAWYERS ARE
RECEIVING A GOOD SUM OF MONEY FOR THEIR SERVICES, IT APPEARS THAT

WHAT THEY INTEND TO PRODUCE WILL BE USEFUL TO GUATEMALA

END OF MESSAGE